

# ***2018 Annual Report***





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## Message from the Chief

This report is a synopsis of the various activities and duties performed by the Indianola Police Department. We strive to be engaged in our community, working with them in a partnership to provide a safe and secure environment where quality of life is expected.

2018 was a busy year for IPD. Although the Department operated with less than a full complement of officers throughout the entire year, the officers handled 1500 more calls for service than in 2017. Despite the additional workload, the officers still found time to be actively involved with IPD's community policing efforts. Officers produced two community policing videos, one which went viral and was viewed over 3 million times.

On behalf of the Indianola Police Department, we thank our community for the support we received in 2018. We vow to work hard for you, continuing our pledge to serve our community with Integrity, Professionalism, and Dedication.

Dave Button  
*Chief of Police*





# Organizational Chart





# 2018

## Department Personnel



Chief Dave Button



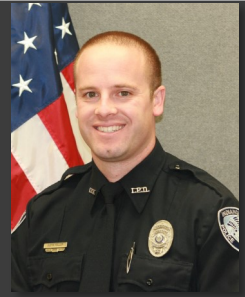
Captain Brian Sher



Lt. Robert Hawkins



Sgt. Scott Dwyer



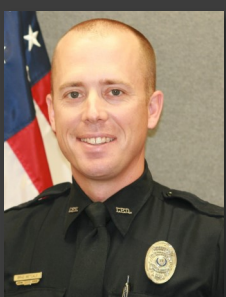
Sgt. Justin Keller



Sgt. Rick Largesse



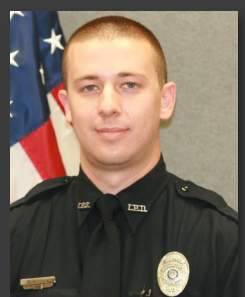
Detective Luke Buhrow



Detective Brad Metcalf



Officer Chris Marsh



Officer Brian Stern



Officer Jay Hackett



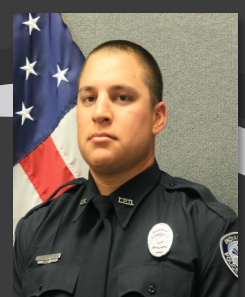
Officer Jennifer Williams



Officer Joshua Temple



Officer Devan Wicks



Officer Michael Chia



Officer Zachary Ewing



Officer Devin Thomas



Officer Tye Sparks



Officer Jason Grossman



Admin. Asst. Pat Allsup



Clerical Rachelle Denning



Clerical Tammy Bruce



Clerical Michelle Snyder



Clerical Mary McCune

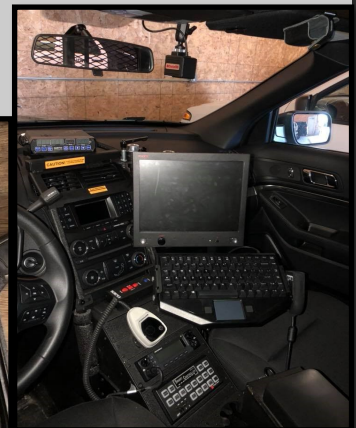


## **Patrol Division**

The Department's most visible division is the patrol division. The lieutenant oversees the operation of the patrol division. Each of the three patrol sergeants command one of three shifts manned by patrol officers. A minimum of two officers provide a law enforcement presence throughout the community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The sergeants and patrol officers are assigned to one of three nine-hour shifts. Each shift overlaps which allows officers an opportunity to exchange information, keeps more officers on the street instead of ending and starting shifts simultaneously, and reduces overtime. The lieutenant works 1 pm – 10 pm Monday through Friday. This ensures that at least one supervisor is available to all three of the patrol shifts during the week, and gives the captain and chief an opportunity to brief the lieutenant on daily matters.

IPD was fortunate to receive grants from four entities in 2018 that assisted in our efforts to upgrade vital equipment. A Casey's grant was used to add the final needed AED to our fleet. A radar unit was replaced with the help of a Theisen's grant. New digital cameras were purchased and assigned to the patrol and detective divisions thanks to the Warren County Philanthropic Partnerships grant. Lastly, new equipment for our newest patrol vehicle was made possible by a Community Betterment Grant from Prairie Meadows.





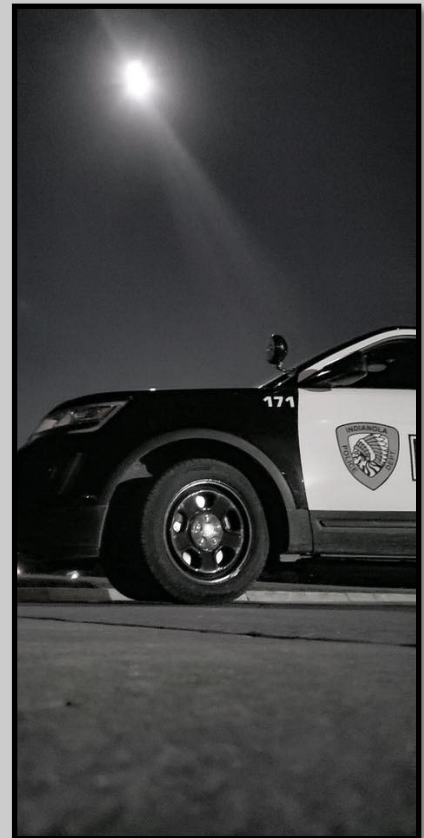


Indianola's day shift patrol officers continue to stop into the area schools unannounced throughout the week. Officers walk through the buildings and converse with students and faculty as the opportunities arise. This effort places a marked patrol car in front of the schools at random times, serving as a deterrent to someone contemplating disrupting the school day. Discussions between the City and the Indianola School District about adding a School Resource Officer to the staff began in 2018.



The Department's speed monitoring trailer is stationed throughout the city to remind drivers not to exceed the designated limit. Patrol officers are responsible for positioning the trailer each morning at a predetermined location and retrieving the trailer each evening.

Each officer's activity, either self-initiated or through being dispatched to a call, is a call for service. The patrol shift had 12,856 calls for service in 2018, an increase of 13.6% from 2017. Traffic enforcement in the form of citations and warnings increased 26.6% from 2017. Both statistics are impressive as the patrol division operated with less than a full complement of officers for the year.





Patrol officers are often the first officers on scene at reported crimes, disturbances, and medical emergencies.



In November of 1957, IPD Officer Elvin “Pop” Hickman was first on an accident scene. During his investigation, he suffered an injury that led to his death shortly afterward. Pop Hickman’s name was added to the Iowa Peace Officer Memorial in May 2018, and he will be added to the National Peace Officer Memorial Wall in 2019.

In September, Officers Brian Stern and Devan Wicks were presented Merit Awards from the City for their efforts in saving the life of resident Rick McGeough after both officers were the first responders to this medical emergency.



Patrol officers assess each situation, identify involved parties, secure evidence if available, gather information, assess patients and render first aid, and make arrests as each situation dictates. They also handle complaints from citizens who either phone or walk in to the department wishing to speak with an officer. Most situations necessitate a written report that each patrol officer is responsible for completing. The cases that need further attention are either forwarded to the detective division or are followed up with by the patrol officer.



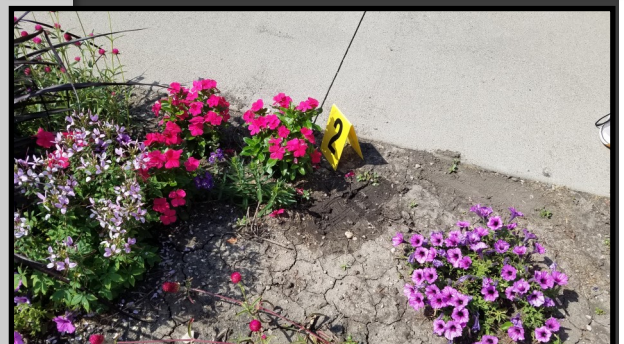


## **Detective Division**

The two detectives assigned to the detective division are overseen by the Captain. Five-year-old plans to expand the division to three detectives are still in place, but again are awaiting a full complement of officers. Cases worked by the division decreased nearly 9% in 2018, yet still resulted in each detective handling over 100 cases.

Detective duties include following up on cases generated by patrol officers, coordinating with prosecutors, warrant preparation and execution, and performing as the lead officers on major crimes including sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries, financial crimes, and narcotics investigations. Detectives are trained and are responsible for crime scene processing, interview and interrogation, and death investigations. Detectives also consult with patrol officers regarding their investigations, and assist with preparation and execution of warrants on cases that are not assigned to the detective division. The detectives are also responsible for the control of evidence and the evidence room.

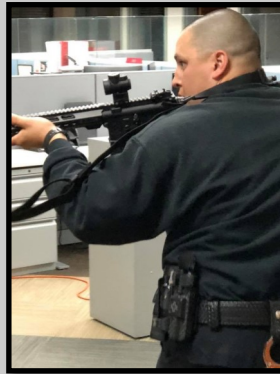
One detective became certified as a forensic examiner to investigate Internet Crimes against Children. This designation allows IPD to continue conducting ICAC cases as we have been for years with other ICAC certified personnel. IPD detectives utilize a Cellebrite device that allows them to conduct forensic exams on cellular phones. IPD detectives utilized the Cellebrite in nearly 90 cases in 2018.





## Training

The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy has established mandatory training requirements for all law enforcement officers in the state. The Indianola Police Department far exceeds those requirements. As a Department, officers received 963 hours of training in 2018.



The Department utilizes the expertise of its own officers during various training days. In 2018, Department officers provided instruction in the areas of firearms, Active Shooter Response, defensive tactics, Taser, and Tactical Medicine. Although not a complete listing of courses, IPD either collaborated with surrounding agencies utilizing their instructors and facilities or sent officers to the following courses of instruction: Patrol Rifle Qualification, Active Shooter Instructor, Narcan, Prevention of workplace harassment for supervisors, Bank Robbery, Tactical Pistol.





## Statistics

### Department Budget

**\$3.07 million**

Type of Call	2016	2017	2018	% Diff
Calls for Service	11744	11321	12856	13.6%
Incident Reports	1699	1666	1857	11.5%
Traffic Enforcement	4588	4434	4912	10.8%
Vehicle Accident Responses	396	371	401	8.1%
Arrests	718	583	601	3.1%
Controlled Substance Cases	189	133	163	22.6%
Assault	79	66	87	31.8%
Burglary	104	286	363	26.9%
Sex Abuse	19	24	34	41.7%
Theft	304	326	307	-5.8%
Domestic Disturbance	164	163	221	35.6%
Criminal Mischief	146	115	141	22.6%
Arson/Fire	5	3	1	-66.6%
Robbery	0	0	1	100%
Fraud/Forgery	148	126	148	17.5%

### Traffic Enforcement

Citations/Warnings	3273	3268	4137	26.6%
OWI	59	72	55	-23.6%
Parking Tickets	426	609	774	27.1%

### Motor Vehicle Accidents

Property Damage	298	281	313	11.4%
Personal Injury	20	20	16	-20%
Hit and Run	66	52	49	-5.8%
Unknown Injury	3	5	8	60%
Car vs. Deer	8	13	15	15.4%
Fatality	1	0	0	0%

### Detective Cases

Detective Investigated	182	227	207	-8.8%
ICAC	13	11	15	36%



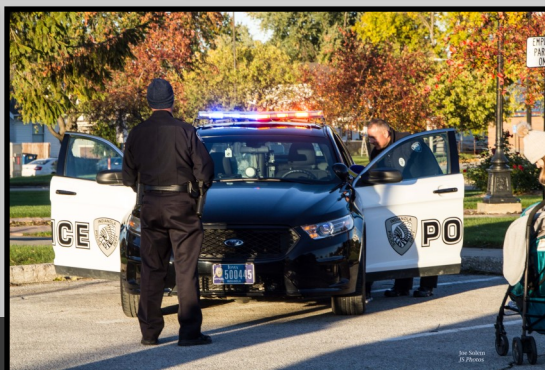


## Community Involvement

The Department is actively involved in the community as we continue to build trust and provide a safe environment for our citizens and visitors. We work to strengthen our current partnerships and look to build collaborative new partnerships with local groups and individuals.

The Department's visibility in the community is vital to our success. Officers are encouraged to get out of the squad cars and into various businesses, or to briefly stop by community events. On Beggar's Night, officers patrol the town handing out candy to young trick-or-treaters. We also set up a squad car at the library and participated in the City's first ever Trunk-or-Treat event. IPD again manned display booths during the Warren County Fair and Warren County Health and Safety fair on the courthouse lawn. Both events afford officers the opportunity to interact with visitors and community members.

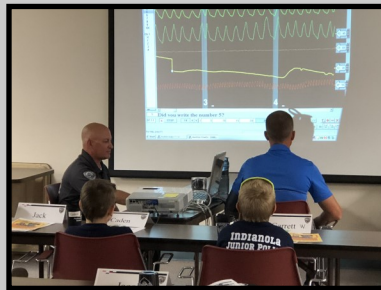
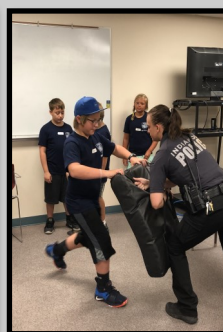
IPD and the Warren County Sheriff's Office collaborated with the Indianola Fire Department to host a Public Safety Night for the fifth year. A large gathering of adults and children received safety-related handouts, interacted with officers, and viewed some of IPD's vehicles. We had officers at the elementary buildings handing out erasers and candy canes respectively on the first day of school and at the last day before the Holiday break.







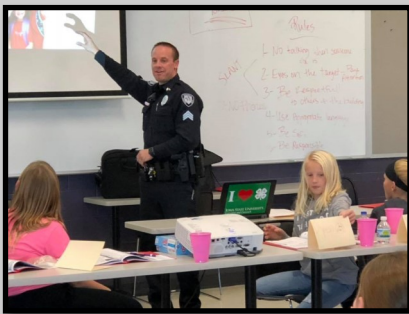
Communication between the Department and administration at Indianola schools and Simpson College continues to be positive. IPD continues a successful partnership with Simpson College to provide internship opportunities to criminal justice students. Simpson's newest Criminal Justice professor has met multiple times with various members of IPD to discuss the CJ program and collaboration.



The annual week-long Junior Police Academy was held in the summer. The room full of Junior Officers were instructed by IPD Officers on topics such as patrol and detective duties, bullying, internet safety, drunk driving, defensive tactics, and polygraphs.



Officers have given talks to local service organizations and schools and read to elementary students at the schools. IPD participated in local charities by donating training in firearms and patrol officer duties for silent auctions. IPD donated to two local PTO's and provided the winning child a ride to school wearing an IPD uniform shirt. The Department's Facebook page and Twitter account continue to provide information to the community on public safety issues and Department activities. We helped at the Mayor's Bike Fest and held a bike helmet giveaway at Victory Christian Academy. We had a detective speak at a Safe Banking seminar, participated in the DEA's drug take back program, and provided a ride-along to U.S. Senator Joni Ernst.



The Department's ride along program continues to be successful. Citizens are allowed, after a background check and with supervisory approval, to spend up to four hours riding with the patrol officers in an observation role. Citizens are eligible to participate in the ride along program once every six months.

The drug drop box in our lobby receives a tremendous amount of use. Citizens place outdated and unwanted prescription medication in the box which is then safely destroyed without harm to the environment.

Two parking spots on the south side of the Department are designated for safe exchange zone parking. The parking stalls are monitored by surveillance video 24/7, and are to be used by people conducting on-line transactions such as eBay or Craigslist purchases as well as by parents making child custody exchanges.





The Indianola Police Department Community Outreach Partners (IPD COP) is a non-profit program funded entirely by donations from businesses and individuals. IPD COP allowed officers to purchase and deliver twelve Thanksgiving dinners and eleven Hormel ham Christmas dinners to families in our community.



IPD COP partnered with Wal-Mart and officers took eleven children Christmas shopping. The kids purchased gifts for their families and themselves, had them wrapped by IPD staff and volunteers, and enjoyed treats. In the spring, officers prepared and served breakfast to community members and veterans at the American Legion.





A new means of connecting with the community was pursued by IPD in 2018, beginning with an impromptu basketball game between Sgt. Largesse and Officer Thomas and some Simpson students. The students who were “schooled” by the officers captured the game on video and posted it online. It was viewed thousands of times and resulted in Sgt. Largesse being interviewed by a Phoenix, Arizona television station. A nationwide Police Officer Lip Sync Challenge was popular online in 2018. IPD joined in and the video by IPD was viewed over 3 million times. 2018 wrapped up with IPD producing a widely viewed and praised PSA holiday video featuring IPD and The Grinch. IPD plans on incorporating more videos into our community policing efforts in 2019.







## Highlights

- ♦ Personnel changes:
  - ♦ Officer Austin Lechtenberg resigned (Cedar Falls PD)
  - ♦ Officer Devin Thomas hired
  - ♦ Officer Tye Sparks hired
  - ♦ Officer Jason Grossman hired
- ♦ Fleet of patrol vehicles increased to six
- ♦ Staffing study completed (Recommended increase of 4 sworn)



# Indianola Police Department

